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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Kohno et al.

Art Unit : Unknown

Serial No. :

Examiner : Unknown

Filed : June 7, 2000

Title : DIAGNOSTIC AGENTS FOR PANCREATIC EXOCRINE FUNCTION

## BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 1, line 5, after "Background of the Invention" insert This application is a  
division of U.S. application serial no. 09/401,739, filed September 23, 1999, which--  
*Now US Patent No. 6,254,851*

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 25-42.

Claims 1-24 are left pending. The non-amended claims are reproduced in small print for ease of reference. For the calculation of the claims fees, please refer to the claims of this preliminary amendment. All of the multiply dependent claims have been amended to become singly dependent claims.

1. A  $^{13}\text{C}$ -labeled oligosaccharide or polysaccharide or a salt thereof excluding U- $^{13}\text{C}$ -maltose,  $^{13}\text{C}$ -starch, 1- $^{13}\text{C}$ -maltotetraose and 1- $^{13}\text{C}$ -amylose.

2. The  $^{13}\text{C}$ -labeled oligosaccharide or polysaccharide or salt thereof according to claim 1, which is hydrolyzed with  $\alpha$ -amylase.

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

June 7, 2000

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